Judge scolds Manafort
Ex-Trump campaign chairman warned not to use media to try case. – National, 3A

Ramen resurgence
The once student staple is now served at a handful of LR restaurants. — Style, 1E

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Senate contest enters final Alabama hours

COMPILED BY DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE STAFF FROM WIRE REPORTS

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — The two candidates for a U.S. Senate seat in Alabama made their final push Monday, with Republican Roy Moore casting himself as the victim of unjust allegations and Democrat Doug Jones declaring the race a referendum on "who we are and what we're going to tell our daughters."

Moore's campaign has been buffeted by accusations of sexual misconduct. The allegations have given Jones hope of becoming the state's first Democratic senator in two decades.

On the eve of today's election, Moore called in to a conservative talk radio show in Alabama to lament the tone of the campaign and portray himself as the victim of the sexual-misconduct allegations.

"We've seen things happen in this campaign that I can't believe to this day," said Moore, who has denied all wrongdoing in contacts with the women and who said he behaved inappropriately when they were in their teens and he was a local prosecutor in his 30s. One said he initiated sexual contact when she was 14.

"It's just been hard, a hard campaign," said Moore, a former Alabama Supreme Court chief justice who was twice removed from that post for violating judicial ethics.

Alabama has been a solidly Republican state for years, and Moore said he is much more in tune with the issues that matter to voters — and to the president.

Speaking Monday in Montgomery, Jones acknowledged that his views don't completely align with those of many of his state's residents.

See **MOORE**, Page 7A

In the news

■ **Leslie Domengeaux**, 53, faces child-endangerment and other counts after, police said, she left a nonverbal autistic boy in a pickup with the engine off in 35-degree weather for nearly four hours while she played bingo at a hall in Baker, La.

■ **Anthony Pomerleau**, 100, who footed the $13,000 tab for his annual holiday party for the less fortunate in Burlington, Vt., said he doesn't mind the cost because he "was brought up the hard way" and wants to use his money to help people.

■ **Mei Rui**, a concert pianist and a cancer researcher from Houston, said she was pulled from a weather-delayed Spirit Airlines flight in Newark, N.J., for not complying with a flight attendant who told her to stop breastfeeding her 2-year-old son and to put him in his seat for takeoff even though the cabin door was still open.

■ **Michael Chikindas**, a Rutgers University professor who said his social media account was hacked, was removed as director of a food research center after being accused of posting anti-Semitic statements, including cartoons and claims that the Sept. 11 attacks were orchestrated by Jews.

■ **Kathy Richardson**, office manager of a veterinary hospital in Bradenton, Fla., is hoping that thieves will return a freezer containing the remains of two dogs awaiting cremation that was stolen from the back of a pickup.

■ **James Rose**, a district fire chief in Dayton, Ohio, said 10 babies had to be quickly moved from a smoky section of a women's hospital until firefighters arrived to clear out smoke coming from an overheated motor.

■ **Jennifer Nichols**, 34, and Joshua Sanders, 32, were arrested on child-neglect charges after, sheriff's deputies said, the couple let a boy live alone in a rented trailer in Pensacola, Fla., for about two months, occasionally taking him food and money.

■ **Valerie Curbelo**, 24, of Sandy, Ore., caught smoking in a toilet on a Southwest Airlines flight to Sacramento, Calif., was charged with making a death threat by telling the flight crew she'd kill everyone on the plane if the pilot didn't land immediately, authorities said.

■ **Johnnie Gaghins**, 21, and Paul Chuckluck, 23, posted on social media a picture of their 9-month-old baby inside a laundry bag hung from a door handle, prompting their arrest on child abuse and neglect charges for what Gaghins thought was a funny photo, police in Claremore, Okla., said.

WEATHER

LITTLE ROCK
Today Sunny skies and cooler with northwest winds at 10 to 15 mph.
High 51.
Tonight Mostly clear skies with winds coming from the west at 5 to 10 mph.
Low 31.

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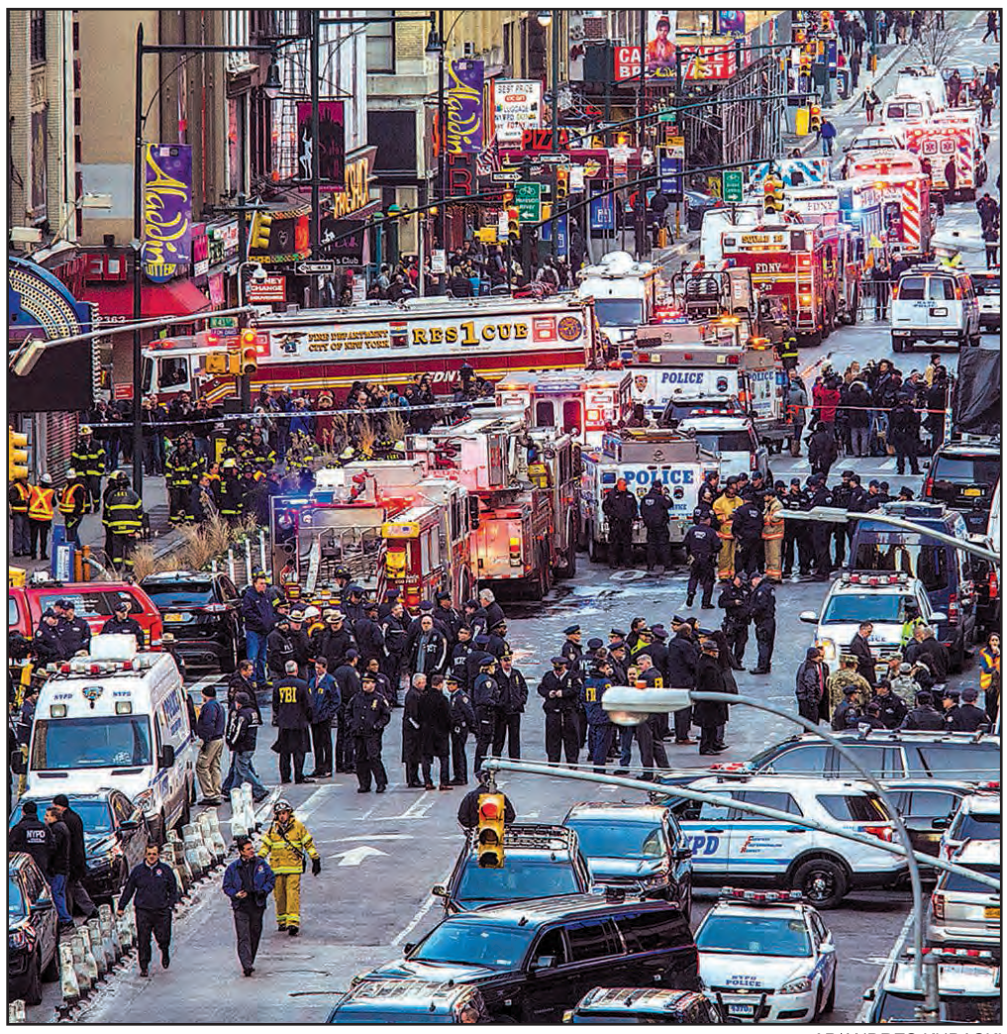
After the flames

The New York Times/HILARY SWIFT

Firefighters from Riverside County check a property where ash smoldered Monday from the Thomas Fire along California 150 just over the Ventura County line from Carpinteria, Calif. *Article, 3A*



AP/ANDRES KUDACKI

Law enforcement officials work after an explosion Monday near New York's Times Square.

Bomb blows in NYC subway

Immigrant inspired by ISIS Christmas attacks, officials say

COMPILED BY DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE STAFF FROM WIRE REPORTS

NEW YORK — A man inspired by Islamic State extremists strapped on a crude pipe bomb, slipped unnoticed into the nation's busiest subway system and set off the device during rush hour Monday in New York City, authorities said.

In the end, the only serious wounds were suffered by the suspect, Akayed Ullah, a 27-year-old Bangladeshi immigrant and former cabdriver, authorities said. But the blast echoed through the subway tunnels near Times Square and filled parts of the Port Authority Bus Terminal with smoke as commuters fled into the streets.

Ullah

Three people suffered headaches and ringing ears from the blast.

"This was an attempted terrorist attack," Mayor Bill de Blasio said. "Thank God the perpetrator did not achieve his ultimate goals."

The Monday morning blast occurred in a long pedestrian walkway connecting the Eighth Avenue, Seventh Avenue and Broadway subway lines. Security cameras showed the attacker walking casually through a crowded passageway under 42nd Street when the bomb went off , releasing a plume of white smoke.

Ullah had attached the pipe bomb to himself with a "combination of Velcro and

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Military will let in transgenders

Trump ban suffers a new hit

COMPILED BY DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE STAFF FROM WIRE REPORTS

WASHINGTON — Transgender recruits will be allowed to enlist in the military beginning Jan. 1, the Pentagon said Monday, as President Donald Trump's ordered ban suffered another legal setback.

The new policy reflects the hurdles the federal government would have to clear before it could enforce Trump's demand earlier this year to bar transgender individuals from the military.

Three federal courts have ruled against the ban, including one Monday in Washington state, and a federal court judge on Monday denied a government request to set aside the January start date for enlistment.

In October, U.S. District Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly barred the Trump administration from proceeding with its plan. One effect of the ruling was that the military would be required to allow transgender people to enlist beginning Jan. 1.

The government, which has argued that implementing such a significant change in policy may "negatively impact military readiness," asked Kollar-Kotelly to put the requirement on hold while it appealed her full ruling. She declined that request Monday, reaffirming the Jan. 1 start date.

The Justice Department is now asking a federal appeals court to intervene and put the Jan. 1 requirement on hold.

In a statement, the Pentagon said it will comply with the court's order while pursuing an appeal, writing that "[Defense Department] and the Department of Justice are actively pursuing relief from those court orders in order to allow an ongoing policy review scheduled to be completed before the end of March."

Maj. David Eastburn, a Pentagon spokesman, said the enlistment of transgender recruits will begin next month and proceed amid legal battles. The Defense

See **MILITARY**, Page 7A

In UA sports firings, hiring, process foggy

ERIC BESSON AND AZIZA MUSA
ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE

EIGHT ASSISTANTS fired; Chavis in running. Page 1C.

The University of Arkansas, Fayetteville has fired and hired an athletic director and a football coach in the past month — but how it got to each point is hazy.

The university called on a nonprofit foundation that supports UA athletics to pay for the dual-running searches, and it brought in two private search firms to evaluate

See **UA**, Page 4A

October job openings slip, but hiring grows

U.S. workers joining payrolls up 4.4%

JOSH BOAK
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — U.S. employers posted slightly fewer job openings in October than the previous month, but the number of people being hired improved.

The Labor Department said Monday that nearly 6 million jobs were available at the end of October, down from 6.18 million in September. Manufacturers, retailers, wholesalers and the information sector advertised fewer jobs — an indicator of their possible intentions in the coming months.

"The leveling off of openings in recent months suggest a more moderate pace of hiring ahead," said Sarah House, an economist with the bank Wells Fargo.

But total hires rose 4.4 percent to 5.55 million. This indicates that even if employers are seeking fewer workers, they're still looking to add to staffs. It also indicates that employers shook off a slowdown caused by hurricanes earlier this year. Leading sources of increased hiring came from restaurants and hotels, the health care sector, manufacturers and financial services.

This means that manufacturers, for example, added workers in October but they are now seeking fewer

See **JOB**, Page 5A

Israeli addresses EU

AP/VIRGINIA MAYO

European Union High Representative Federica Mogherini (right) and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu address a news conference at the EU Council building Monday in Brussels. *Article, 6A*